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Strong showing by first UMass Law bar exam takers

More than three quarters of inaugural group of UMass Law graduates to take the Massachusetts bar exam passed on the first attempt.

The UMass School of Law today announced 77.8 percent of its first-time takers of the Massachusetts Bar Exam passed the test. These were the first graduates of the school, located at UMass Dartmouth, to take the exam.

"These results are a clear indicator that the academic, financial, and student support fundamentals of UMass Law are strong," said UMass President Robert L. Caret. "We are all quite proud of our first class of law graduates and look forward to the contributions they will make to their profession and society."

"This excellent bar pass result, in just our first year of operation, is proof of the talent and work ethic of our students, and the knowledge and dedication of our law school faculty and staff," said UMass Dartmouth Chancellor Jean F. MacCormack. "Congratulations to these pioneering UMass Law graduates who will now move forward in careers to serve their communities and the Commonwealth."

"It's a good, strong score for any school and an outstanding score for a new school seeking provisional accreditation," added University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law Dean and Professor of Law Katherine S. Broderick, who is serving as the school's accreditation consultant.

The School of Law was established in 2010 to provide a high quality public option for citizens of the Commonwealth. The first UMass Law graduating class received diplomas in May, 2011.

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